



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

6620 Southpoint Drive South
Suite 310
Jacksonville, Florida 32216-0958

IN REPLY REFER TO:
FWS/R4/ES-JAFL

March 6, 2001

Colonel James May
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Dear Colonel May:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will appear in the Federal Register in the next few days announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

Pursuant to the terms of our Settlement Agreement in Save the Manatee Club et al. v. Ballard, we are writing to invite you to join us in drafting these regulations. We anticipate that it will take 14 to 20 months from now to prepare draft regulations. Should you wish to join us in this rulemaking process we request that you designate a point of contact for your agency.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Peter Benjamin of this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David L. Hankla", is written over the typed name.

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 6, 2001

Dr. Alan Egbert
Director, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Dr. Egbert:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will appear in the Federal Register in the next few days announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Peter Benjamin of this office.

Sincerely,

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 6, 2001

Mr. David Struhs
Secretary, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Marjorie Stoneman Douglass Bldg.
3900 Commonwealth Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Secretary Struhs:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will appear in the Federal Register in the next few days announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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Sincerely,

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 6, 2001

Mr. James W. Coleman Jr.
Regional Director
National Park Service
75 Spring Street, SW, Rm. 1094
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Coleman:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will appear in the Federal Register in the next few days announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. L. Hankla", is written above the typed name.

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 6, 2001

Commander Bob Clark Jr.
United States Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, SW
Washington DC 20593

Dear Commander Clark:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will appear in the Federal Register in the next few days announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 28, 2001

Ms. Marsha Kearney
Forest Supervisor
U.S. Forest Service
325 Knox Road
Suite F100
Tallahassee, FL 32303-4160

Dear Ms. Kearney:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. Hankla".

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 28, 2001

Ms. Elayne Huebner
Florida Department of Highway Safety
2900 Appalachia Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Ms. Huebner:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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Sincerely,

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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March 28, 2001

Mr. David Roach
Executive Director
Florida Inland Navigation District
1314 Marcenski Road
Jupiter, FL 33471

Dear Mr. Roach:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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FWS/R4/ES-JAFL

March 28, 2001

Mr. Larry Olsen
West Coast Inland Navigation
District
PO Box 1845
Venice, FL 34284

Dear Mr. Olsen:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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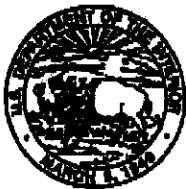
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. Hankla", is written over the typed name.

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 28, 2001

Ms. Julie Jennison
South Florida Water Management District
PO Box 24680
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4600

Dear Ms. Jennison:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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Sincerely,

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David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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March 28, 2001

Ms. Mary Jane Angelo
St Johns Water Management District
7775 Baymeadows Way
Suite 102
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Dear Ms. Angelo:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



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March 28, 2001

Ms. Karen Gruenhagen
Southwest Florida Water
Management District
7601 US Highway 301 North
Tampa, FL 33637

Dear Ms. Gruenhagen:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to David L. Hankla, is positioned above the typed name.

David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach



United States Department of the Interior

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
FWS/R4/ES-JAFL

March 28, 2001

Mr. George Mackin
Suwanee River Water
Management District
9225 County Road 40
Live Oak, Florida 32060

Dear Mr. Mackin:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is initiating the process of promulgating regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407). These regulations would authorize the incidental take of a small number of Florida manatees associated with government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities in Florida. An Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking appeared in the Federal Register on March 12, 2001, (copy enclosed) announcing the initiation of this process to the public.

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David L. Hankla
Field Supervisor

cc

ARD-ES, Atlanta, Georgia
Regional Solicitor, DOI, Atlanta,
Judith Valle, SMC
Robert Gulley
Florida State Supervisor Vero Beach

ED BARBER & ASSOCIATES

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

905 Lasswade Drive
Tallahassee FL 32312
Tel: 850-386-5394
Cell: 850-567-4484

25 April, 2001

Mr. David Hankla
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6620 Southpoint Drive South
Suite 310
Jacksonville FL 32216-0958

RE: FWS/R4/ES-JAFL; letter of 28 March, 2001 - promulgation of regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act

Dear Mr. Hankla:

Your letter to me was forwarded recently and I will reply by snail mail, but since time is of the essence, I thought I had best respond first by e-mail.

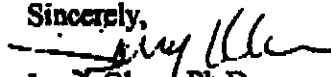
Thank you for inviting the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) to be a member of your committee to draft the new marine mammal regulations. I will be representing Mr. Chuck Listowski, Director of WCIND, at meetings that he cannot attend. My capacity will be as a special consultant to WCIND.

We look forward to participating in the discussions. The point of contact will be:

Chuck Listowski, Director
WCIND
P.O. Box 1845
Venice FL 34284

Ph: 941-485-9402
FAX: 941-485-8394
e-mail: wcind200@aol.com; driars@netally.com

Sincerely,


Larry Olsen, Ph.D.
Ed Barber & Associates

cc: Chuck Listowski